

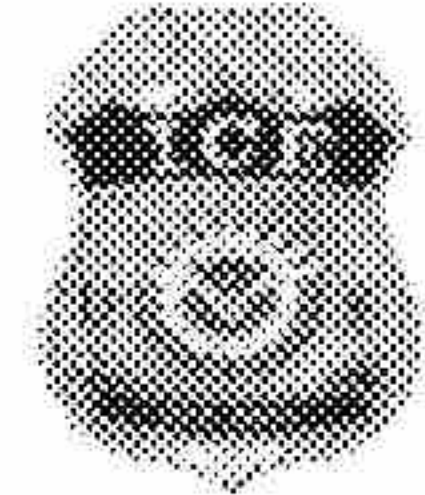
EXHIBIT 1-2



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**Meeting with Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Assistant Secretary (AS)
Michele T. Bond
and Chargé d'Affaires of Iraq to the United States Mohammed Jawad Al Quraishy
October 25, 2016, 1:30 pm**

Overview:

- ERO sent AS Bond a letter requesting DOS CA assistance in exploring more aggressive actions to address the removal issue with the Government of Iraq (GOI).
- AS Bond is accompanying you to a meeting with Chargé d'Affaires (CDA) Al Quraishy Al Quraishy, which is one of the steps within the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ICE and the Department of State Bureau Consular Affairs concerning repatriation. The MOU outlines a series of graduated steps, with the joint meeting representing the second step in attempting to achieve compliance in issuing travel documents timely.

ERO and DOS are currently working on another Demarche. ERO has held multiple meetings at the Iraqi embassy. On January, 2016 ERO held a meeting at the Iraq Embassy where a document was presented to Iraq that acknowledged an agreement to accept criminal deportees' return to Iraq and cops of identity documents. Interviews have been conducted and completed for the Iraqi consulate in Washington DC and Detroit Michigan. On October 4, 2016 the desk officers for RIO and DOS met with Chargé d'Affaires of Iraq and the second secretary of Iraq. During this meeting Iraq appeared to reiterate the acceptance of copies and agreed to issue TD denials and begin interviews. Iraq also mentioned the forced return and fear claim policy that hinders TD issuance.

- , First Secretary, became CDA *ad-interim* of Iraq on March 15, 2011.
- In 2016, there were eleven (11) HQ Zadvydas releases. In 2015 there were eight (8) Zadvydas releases.
 - **Note:** Some of the Iraqi released, post order, are done so at the field office level at day-90 if the Iraqis in ICE custody are non-criminal.

Talking Points:

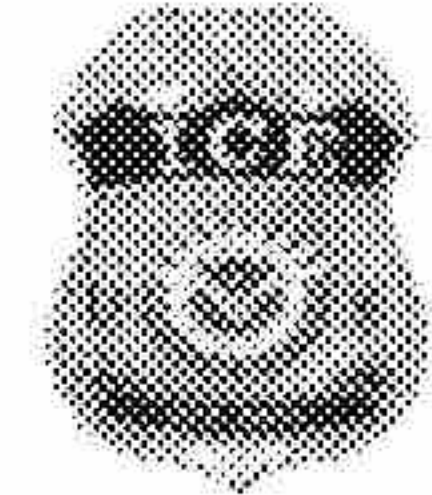
- ICE considers GOI uncooperative in its acceptance of the return of nationals subject to final orders of removal from the United States, and urges GOI to cooperate in this regard.
- ICE believes that under international law every state is obliged to accept the return of all its nationals ineligible to remain in the United States, or any other country.
- ICE asks for your help in issuing travel documents (TD) to Iraqis who are subject to final orders of removal, in accordance with procedures provided under U.S. law.
- Consistent with applicable standards promulgated by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), countries generally issue travel documents within approximately 30 days of a request for such documents and Iraq is a member state of ICAO.
- This is not a new issue, unfortunately, and ICE requests your immediate assistance to clear the backlog of cases. We must see concrete progress.
- Convey that the U.S. Congress is aware of this issue and both you and AS Bond have testified before Congress regarding uncooperative countries. Many of our legislators are concerned and have suggested legislation that would require the automatic imposition of punishments on uncooperative countries.
- The Iraqi Embassy has stated during multiple meeting that there is a policy of not issuing documents on subjects who do not want to return. Iraq has also mentioned refusing to issue a TD on anyone who claimed fear regardless of the fear claim being resolved and the



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subject being removable. ERO does not share fear claim information with any government however on occasion a citizen may decide to divulge this information.

- **Note:** This policy will become problematic for U.S. national security interests as the number of individuals claiming fear and passively notifying their desire not to return to Iraq may continue to increase
- As of October 15, 2016, ICE has 21 Iraqis detained with removal orders where ICE has requested travel documents Approximately 1, 381 Iraqis, of whom approximately 874 have criminal convictions, are not in ICE custody but await TD issuance.
- ICE urges the GOI to begin the issuance of TDs expeditiously for all detained and non-detained cases subject to removal, and develop a system through which ICE officials can work directly with Iraqi consular officials to obtain TDs. Per the ICAO standard, which Iraq is party to, TD issuance should occur no later than 30 calendar days after the request is received from ICE.
- ***Watch Out For: CDA may respond that most of their nationals detained by ICE are asylum seekers.***
 - Most of the cases presented for removal are non-criminal, recent border entrants that are encountered while attempting to illegally enter the U.S. through Mexico, or apply for admission at a U.S. port of entry but are found inadmissible. Additionally, cases that ICE presents for removal have been afforded their appropriate due process and have been ordered removed.
- ***Watch Out For: CDA may respond that their verification process cannot be completed on Iraqis without a valid ID docs or copies. Also, he may respond that our TD requests lack supporting identification documentation.***
 - While this may be true, the length of time is not ultimately the issue, because some of ICE's TD requests go unanswered and remain pending since.
 - ICE's TD requests often do lack supporting documentation since we rarely have identification to present..
 - The Iraqi Government has mentioned it will not honor some of the passports that were issued during Iraq's fifth president, Saddam Hussein's regime. Apparently there was an issue with issuance on non-Iraqis.

Background:

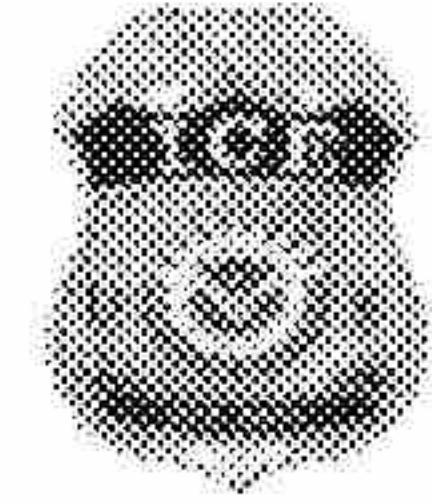
- Removals to Iraq were previously suspended as a result of combat operations. In April 2006, after a long suspension, ICE approached the Iraqi Ministry of the Interior to reestablish a removal process. On May 19, 2006, then-DHS Secretary Chertoff and Assistant Secretary Baker approved a bilateral agreement that outlined the requirements to return Iraqi nationals utilizing unexpired passports issued in 2007 or later and also established document requirements for the issuance of a TD.
- With the support of the Consulate of Iraq in Detroit, Michigan, ICE conducted a charter flight to Iraq on May 26, 2010, returning 23 Iraqi nationals to Baghdad. Since that flight, ICE has seen a substantial decline in TD issuance, which is believed to be a result of concerns expressed to the Consulate by the Iraqi community in Detroit. Shortly after the 2010 charter flight, the Consulate stated that its authority to issue TDs was suspended. The number of Iraqi removals has decreased since then due, in part, to this suspension of issuance authority. Since August 2010, ICE has actively



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engaged with the DOS and the Embassy of Iraq to address the persistent delays in TD issuance and Iraq's refusal to readily accept the return of Iraqi nationals with final orders of removal who do not express a desire to return. In July 2011, the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad issued a demarche to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and reiterated the position of the U.S. Government; that the GoI should begin issuing TDs expeditiously for its nationals who are subject to orders of removal from the United States. In 2011, Iraq opened a Consulate in Los Angeles, California and a Consulate in Detroit, Michigan to support the Embassy in Washington, DC. Despite this additional support, TD issuance remains inconsistent. In November 2011, the GoI's Ministry of Foreign Affairs directed consular officials to not issue passports or TDs to Iraqi nationals who did not wish to return to Iraq. In August 2012, as a result of that mandate, 10 countries (Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, The Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States) established the "Brussels Group," to discuss Iraqi repatriation concerns and to identify strategies to elicit better cooperation from the GoI. On November 15, 2012, U.S. Ambassador Knight represented U.S. interests at an ambassador-level meeting hosted by the Brussels Group at the Embassy of Australia in Baghdad. During that meeting, the countries (member states) agreed to draft and issue a joint demarche for presentation to Iraq's Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. Citing its disagreement with other member states' repatriation of Iraqi nationals, the DOS' Bureau of Population, Migration and Refugees subsequently opposed U.S. participation in the joint demarche, and sent a cable to the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad advising that the U.S. would not participate.

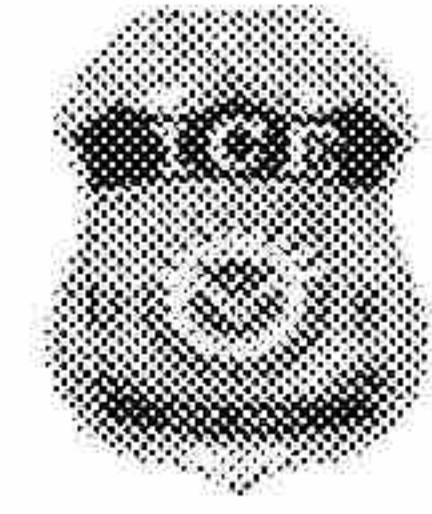
- In lieu of direct U.S. engagement, the Brussels Group welcomed participation from the United States as an observer.
- On February 20, 2013, the Brussels Group met with representatives of the Iraqi Ministry of Displacement and Migration in Baghdad. ICE attended the meeting as an observer. During that meeting, the GoI requested a focus on voluntary returns, and expressed a need for reintegration support, before continuing discussions on forced returns.
- On February 7, 2014, leadership from ICE and the Department of State met with the Iraqi Ambassador regarding issues concerning the GoI practices for issuing travel documents to facilitate removals. The Ambassador committed to working with ICE to re-establish a process, which includes addressing the requirement for Iraqi nationals to overtly state that they wish to return, as well as address the GoI requirement for ICE to include an original identity document with the travel document request.
- During the month of September 2014, DAD Corey Katz attended a meeting of the Brussels Group. On March 31, 2015, the DCM issued a demarche to the Deputy Foreign Minister on the removals issue. The Embassy Baghdad proposed meeting with MFA on April 20, 2015. The Baghdad Front office decided against this meeting, because the meeting would be held in the Red Zone, which would require significant planning and security support and could not be undertaken lightly. There is a concern, after the lack of concurrence by DHS on the reciprocity changes that post isn't fully informed about what actions they need to take in order to show that we are committed to assisting DHS with these issues. The RIO desk officer has been involved with the Brussels Group via teleconference when available or has received meeting minutes. The only involvement ERO ICE has with the Brussels Group is as an observer.



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During the teleconference calls, ICE will pass along any progress made with the Iraqi Embassy in acquiring a travel document. As of June 2015, the group has not been able to gain any additional ground with the Deputy Foreign Minister in Iraq. The group's conversation centered on the upcoming seminar in September of 2015. In October 2015, AD Piñeiro attended a Seminar on Migration Flows to and from Iraq, hosted in Istanbul, Turkey and coordinated by the Brussels Group.

- On December 21, 2015, RIO held a meeting at the Iraqi embassy with DOS and the Iraqi consulate staff. On January 29, 2016 ERO held a meeting at the Iraqi embassy. The AD of Removals DAS, the DFM and Ambassador of Iraq were in attendance. The Consulate of Washington DC was also in attendance.
- On February 4, 2016 ERO held a meeting at the Iraq Embassy where a document was presented to Iraq that acknowledged an agreement to accept criminal deportees' return to Iraq. The AD of Removals DAS, the DFM and Ambassador of Iraq were in attendance. The Consulate of Washington DC was also in attendance. **Iraq has been issued multiple demarches: the most recent was in March of 2015.**

Hot Topic:

- On 24 October 2016, BBC news indicated that Kurdish forces were taking part in the offensive to retake the Iraqi city of Mosul from Islamic State (IS) militants are besieging a key town to the north. The Kirkuk health directorate stated that the Islamic State (IS) attack on the city caused at least 46 fatalities and injured more than 130 people; the majority of the casualties were members of the security forces. Iraqi forces killed at least 48 IS militants during the clashes. (<http://www.pressherald.com/2016/10/21/islamic-state-launches-attack-on-kirkuk/>) (http://www.bbc.com/news/world/middle_east)

Press:

- Closed

Participants:

- Sarah R. Saldaña, Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- Marlen Piñeiro, Assistant Director, ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations, Removal
- Michele T. Bond, Assistant Secretary, Department of State Bureau of Consular Affairs
- Mohammed Jawad Quraishy, Chargé d'Affaires of Iraq to the United States

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